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9 November 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution

FROM

: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Mediterranean Study

- 1. While assigned as Commander in Chief, Allied Forces Southern Europe, there seemed to me to be a need for something which could help military commanders, commanding officers of ships or, for that matter, any U.S. Government representative new to the Mediterranean area to understand the complex forces which influence decisions in that part of the world. Existing material provided good historic and geographic coverage, but I could find nothing which identified specifically those currents of history, or politics, or tradition which cause people around the Mediterranean littoral to see and react to issues differently today. Short of being a Mediterranean scholar, the on-scene commander had little to help him anticipate national reactions or to intelligently respond to them.
- 2. A project was launched which would cause papers to be written by the foremost scholars in the United States attempting to identify the factors which influence decision-makers and the general public in the countries and regions of the Mediterranean. These papers were discussed in a series of seminars at The School of Advanced International Studies at the Johns Hopkins University. From these papers and discussions, the key factors were identified and distilled into short precis which a busy commander could read to gain the essence of a country's or region's behavior. The attached volume is the result. It is not meant to be a definitive work, but rather a prototype of similar volumes about other parts of the world which might be produced if this one proves useful. If the principal goal of this endeavor has been met. this work should reflect fundamental, long-term factors which time and events will change only slowly.

3. No comments are necessary, but should you have any suggestions either on the volume as it was originally intended or on its possible use by the Agency in this form or some other, they would be appreciated.

STANSFIELD TURNER

Attachment As stated Next 2 Page(s) In Document Exempt